

# PEACE NEWS

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THREEPENCE

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## World Youth Hostellers meet in Britain

*By Margaret Snaith, BA.*

MORE than 1,500 young people from over 20 different countries assembled at Ashridge Park, Herts., on Saturday and Sunday, August 19-20, for the Annual International Youth Hostel Rally.

This Rally precedes the Conference where chosen delegates from the various countries will meet to discuss matters concerned with the encouragement of the movement of young people from country to country by the facilities offered for cheap accommodation. At the end of the week, many of the hostellers, who will have scattered over the country in the intervening time, will gather together in the Royal Albert Hall to celebrate the 21st Birthday of the English Youth Hostels Association.

It is to the inspiration of the German schoolteacher, Richard Schirmer, that the movement owes its inception. The idea of the provision of cheap over-night accommodation for youth in its travels spread rapidly and 21 years ago, in England the possibilities came under discussion. Largely through the enthusiasm of the National Secretary, Mr. Jack Catchpool, the first hostels sprang up here in 1931.

In 1932 the International Youth Hostel Federation was established and the principles laid down which now enable an Australian to hostel in Finland and a Scotsman in Morocco.

### First post-war rally in Britain

This year the Rally and Conference are being held in England for the first time since the war. In the last few years visitors from the many countries have been welcomed in Denmark, Ireland, Holland and Scotland.

The programme of the Rally is never the most important factor, although the days of folk-dancing and songs from many countries given at Ashridge were most fascinating. It is the aim of the organisers that the ordinary hostellers should have opportunities to meet and discover more about each other's countries and there were many interesting encounters.

I spoke to men and boys from Finland, Norway, Denmark and Italy, to girls from Germany, Switzerland and France. There were six Australians, a Canadian contingent and Americans from the Atlantic and Pacific seaboard. A party from Morocco produced an amusing sketch during the evening's entertainment and Algeria and Tunisia were also represented. Ireland, Scotland and Wales should not be forgotten, and with all these mixed the English. Under the Presidency of Mr. Catchpool, who has done so much for the Youth Hostels movement, the Conference will discuss matters of importance to encourage travel between the countries, but it is at the Rally that the young people are actually brought together and in forming friendships with those from other lands they are furthering the cause of international peace.

(See "Pacifist Portrait," page five.)

## Retreat from Stalingrad

BRIGADE Orders issued in a camp in Oxfordshire related to the naming of the following Officers' and Other Ranks' quarters will be redesignated as indicated: "Smolensk, Wavell; Kharkoff, Wilson; Stalingrad, Fisher." Reporting the "improvement" the Daily Worker said last Monday that it "contradicted the present policy of peace by

## SANE OPINIONS CAN STILL BE HEARD

**Arms no answer to Communism — TORY M.P.**

IS the realisation that "the battle for peace" cannot be won by military force gaining ground in Britain? The national Press, normally hesitant to convey such sentiments, has recently published expressions of that opinion from sources too authoritative to ignore.

Most welcome of these was the letter to The Times of August 16, from the prominent Conservative M.P., Lord Hinchinbrooke.

Peace News welcomes news of peace; the expression of such opinions in influential quarters is good news. We need no further reason for publishing that letter almost in full. Lord Hinchinbrooke wrote:

"Lord Horder . . . thinks the United Nations should wield a spear as well as a shield.

"But if it does that against interests claimed by any of its constituent members it ceases to be a forum of world debate for the peaceful settlement of disputes and becomes a legal cover for the action of whichever leading Power in the world balance can secure the majority of votes.

"The United Nations as the noble concept of those who framed it in 1945 faces dissolution today or at best sterility.

"If it is to be saved it is essential that America should be brought to realise that she will add immense moral power to her over-whelming strength by expressing now her readiness to negotiate or concede on all questions which fall outside the area of police action in South Korea."

Lord Hinchinbrooke then enumerates such questions:

"The cessation of the bombing of North Korea (sic), the establishment of Communist China on the Security Council, the abandonment of the defence of Formosa, and, last but not least, the international control of atomic energy.

"The Security Council is powerless to discuss the immediate dispute while these wider differences and fears hang menacingly over it.

### A FUNDAMENTALLY WRONG BELIEF

"It amazes me that his Majesty's Government are seemingly offering no counsel towards these ends.

"Britain's fame and success as a world Power were built upon the doctrine of remaining outside the balance of world forces, giving support to the weaker but never to the stronger.

"That we now find ourselves increasingly bound up with American policy arises, inter alia, from a fundamentally wrong belief that the spread of the Communist ideology is identical with the spread of Russian power, and that disarmament is the proper reply to both.

"I agree with Lord Horder that the western countries have been subjected to a ceaseless campaign of subversive propaganda directed to bringing about their downfall from within. I merely maintain that a drastic rearmament programme, with the inevitable reintroduction of controls, rationing, and growing hardship will foster rather than prevent the growth of Communism at home.

"British policy should be based not on fear but on fact, and in the absence of proof that Russia intends to conquer foreign countries by military force, it is best to keep the social and economic side of our revival uppermost."

\* The emphasis on certain paragraphs is ours.—Ed., PN.

## NOT ON THE LIST

TEN major cities in Korea were warned last Saturday that they were about to be bombed by the United Nations, says an Associated Press report appearing in the Evening Standard on that day which continued:

"The warning was followed by 800 tons of bombs dropped on Chonjun—which was not on the list."

FOOTNOTE: Before the United Nations dropped the atom bomb on Hiroshima in 1945 the people of Japan were presented with a list of cities which would be destroyed by bombing. Hiroshima was not on the list.

## Remove Russia's own fear — BISHOP OF CHICHESTER

THAT "the battle for peace is not to be won by pure military force" is also repeated in a letter to The Times from the Bishop of Chichester.

It is vital, he says, that police measures in Korea shall be accompanied by steps to deal with the root of the evil from which the conflict has sprung, namely, "the enforced division of the Korean people."

Various brands of unity are offered them from outside, he says, "but not one of these is likely to be of the pattern they wish, and "the whole weight of United Nations policy should be to discover and to secure what the Korean people really desire."

Besides this, the bishop continues, though Russia may bring fear to other nations, "we must not be blind to Russia's own fear."

Quoting Harold Laski he says, "It is clear that the acceptance of socialism . . . means a Russia surrounded, in its Government's eyes, by capitalist states anxious for its destruction."

"We abhor the Communist programme and creed," the bishop adds, "but we cannot kill either by force. Is it quite impossible to resolve the Communist fear?"

### ABOLISH POVERTY AND EXPLOITATION FIRST

While the western nations should be prepared to resist aggression, he continues, they should be equally urgent in preparing plans for removing such evils as the poverty of the masses, exploitation of the people by the rich few, corrupt forms of government, domination by a foreign power, and racial discrimination.

"We cannot combat Communism by argument or by force so long as these conditions which favour the growth of Communism are not removed."

To this end he suggests what he calls a "Truman-Attlee-Schuman Plan." It would require great sacrifices, but for a noble cause. "It would show the Soviet Government that there is no ground for their fear of aggression by 'capitalist states' . . . It would also render the rest of the world impregnable to totalitarian infiltration."

## This is war

THIS is a story that no American should ever have to write. It is the ugly story of an ugly war. There is so much to tell that is sorrowful and sickening.

War against the Communists of Asia cannot be won—not really won—by military means alone. To attempt to win it so, as we are now doing in Korea, is not only to court final failure but also to force upon our men in the field acts and attitudes of the utmost savagery . . . savagery in detail; the blotting out of villages where the enemy MAY be hiding . . . the shooting and shelling of refugees who MAY include North Koreans . . . who MAY be screening an enemy march. . . .

The South Korean police and marines are brutal: they murder to save themselves the trouble of escorting prisoners to the rear; they murder civilians simply to get them out of the way; and they extort information by means so brutal that they cannot be described. . . .

"IF YOU HAVE TO . . ."

A column of refugees is moving towards B Company.

This silent refugee approach often

## WHO HAS BETRAYED JAPAN?

ON March 6, 1946, the Japanese Government approved a new Constitution outlawing war.

General MacArthur gave his approval and the Constitution became law.

Last week Peace News quoted the warning of the Observer's Tokyo Correspondent: "The nucleus of an army is now being formed; the 75,000 strong National Police Force will be a . . . quasi-military body." He described this as a "terrible anomaly," as the majority of the Japanese people had "dedicated themselves to peace."

The tragedy is now complete. In a long statement issued this week the Japanese Government repudiates the pacific basis of that Constitution.

The Government now announces its intention to "co-operate with the democracies as a measure for our own defence," states that Japan is "already in the field of battle," and condemns all opposition to the establishment of American bases in Japan.

### "No armed forces"

Most pertinent of the Articles of the 1946 Constitution was Article 9:

"War and the threat or use of force are for ever renounced as a means of settling disputes with other nations. The maintenance of land, sea and air forces, as well as other war potential, will never be authorised. The right of belligerency of the state will not be recognised."

The Preamble to the Constitution read:

"Desiring peace for all time and conscious of the high ideals controlling human relationship now stirring mankind, we have determined to rely for our security and survival upon the justice and good faith of the peace-loving peoples of the world.

"We desire to occupy an honoured place in the international society designed and dedicated to the preservation of peace and the banishment of tyranny, slavery, oppression and intolerance for all time from the earth. We recognise and acknowledge that all peoples have the right to live in peace, free from fear and want."

So another piece of paper goes into the waste paper basket of power politics. But this time, unhappily, the piece of paper bore one of the most hopeful resolutions any national government has ever made.

### Relief Committee's fine record

THE Oxford Committee for Famine Relief, on whose behalf Dr. Gilbert Murray, O.M., will broadcast next Sunday, distributed nearly £100,000 of clothing, footwear and other goods during the period Oct. 1, 1948-Sept. 30, 1949.

Office and store room expenses were rigidly controlled and amounted to £1,694. The incredibly small administrative expenses prove conclusively that every penny is going in the direction of which the Committee is prime mover.

P.C.R.

covers an attack. The colonel says, in a voice racked with wretchedness, "All right, don't let them through. . . . But try to talk to them, try to tell them to go back."

"Yeah," says one of the staff group, "but what if they don't go back?"

"Well, then," the colonel says, as though dragging himself towards some pit, "then fire over their heads."

"OK, then what?"

The colonel seems to brace himself in the semi-darkness of the blacked-out tent.

"Well, then, fire into them if you have to. IF YOU HAVE TO, I said."

WE MUST TALK TO THE PEOPLE

I reflected, as my jeep bumped into Pusan, that the machine age and the machine man of the West can be pretty wonderful. But machines still can't talk to people, not as we must learn—and learn very soon—to talk to the people of Asia.

—Condensed from John Osborne's report in the Aug. 21 issue of the American Newsmagazine Time.



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## THE BISHOPS

By John Friend

THE reply of the Archbishop of Canterbury to the peace appeal of the heads of the Orthodox Churches in Russia, Georgia and Armenia looks disappointing at first glance, because it refuses to examine proposals for disarmament before there are signs of an attempt to establish accepted standards of "truth, justice and brotherly regard" between nations. "Without these," he truly says, "there is no lasting confidence and therefore no security for peace." But he ignores the surely obvious truth that the present lack of confidence between nations is in part the effect of the armaments race and does not rank solely as a cause of the race.

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Nevertheless, there is much in the Archbishop's letter (addressed to the Patriarch of Moscow) which should encourage those Christians who have tried humbly and hard for many years to persuade their fellow-Churchmen and their Church leaders that war and Christ cannot go together and that there are no ifs and buts to that proposition. He quotes the famous Lambeth Conference resolution of 1930, "that war as a method of settling international disputes is incompatible with the teaching and example of Our Lord Jesus Christ"—and recalls that this statement was reaffirmed at the Lambeth Conference of 1948. Then, after citing two further resolutions, one of which, it is true, "recognises that there are occasions when both nations and individuals are obliged to resort to war as the lesser of two evils," the Archbishop speaks of the proposal to outlaw the atomic bomb. There follows this passage:

"Moreover this suggestion relating to the atomic weapon isolates one aspect of the problem only, one weapon only out of all the possible weapons of mass destruction, some of which are as frightful as the atomic bomb. All such weapons should be abolished in civilised states. But so should war itself; and huge armies, navies and air forces are as great an anomaly in a civilised world as atomic weapons."

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"But so should war itself..." Indeed it should. Every pacifist will say Amen to the whole of that paragraph in the Archbishop's letter, because it puts the truth in unmistakable terms, and expresses it so simply and convincingly that the rest of the statement, much as it seems to try to qualify what has been said, cannot dim its effect. The Archbishop must surely realise that one cannot make such a statement and then go on to imply that the individual Christian cannot do anything about it now, other than to "pray that the first steps may be taken towards renewal of mutual trust and confidence, as a pre-condition of considering the evil itself. Because there is sin everywhere, because there is a 'total evil situation,' must we go on sinning? Surely he does not mean that Christ cannot operate until someone else than the obedient servant of Christ sees the light. That would be to knock all the reality out of trying to live a Christian life; to put off until a more propitious moment the duty of absolute obedience to God.

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In reality only a very thin wall separates the pacifist from the non-pacifist Christian; and how thin a wall it is, is demonstrated by the Bishop of Chichester in an illuminating letter to The Times. He cuts through the whole baffling dilemma—for it is indeed baffling—by focussing attention on the realities behind the present fog of distrust. The Western Powers have an inescapable duty, as heavy as that of the Communist Powers, "to seek peace through positive steps," first of all in Korea, and secondly by removing the causes of Russia's own fear and proclaiming a positive policy of liberation and goodwill to all peoples. Though linked with the assumption that military operations are necessary, the letter burns with the belief that love and good will have a potency of their own transcending that of fear and hatred.

IN 1914 the question of peace or war lay hidden behind an Archduke's murder.

In 1939 it was obscured by a dispute about a strip of land, called the Polish Corridor, which up to the last seemed capable of peaceable settlement.

Today, with the threat of an even greater calamity facing the world, it is shrouded in a thick net of complications: mutual accusations whether the North or the South was guilty of starting the Korean war, and who is guilty of conduct likely to turn it into a world war; the legality or illegality of the Security Council resolution which has rendered a quick conclusion of the "incident" by the victory of the North impossible; the fitness or unfitness of the Syngman Rhee regime; the behaviour of Mr. Malik as this month's chairman of the Security Council; the rightness or wrongness of American policy with regard to Formosa; the double function of General MacArthur as United Nations Commander in Korea and USA Commander in the Far East; the justification or otherwise of Senator McCarthy's campaign and other witch-hunts; the bearing on the situation of coming elections in America and the ever present possibility of an early general election in this country owing to the Government's insignificant majority; political divisions in France and Italy, and German anxiety or unwillingness to be re-armed.

These and a dozen other issues criss-cross the foreground of the international picture in a web of entanglements, upsetting most beholders' sense of perspective.

As in the past, so would the cause of peace be safer now if the foreground were less crowded.

It is as easy to stumble into the atomic pit by the oversimplification of disregarding one or another of the complications as to fall into it by being too intent upon the legalistic solution of all of them.

### Three new factors in world politics

ABOVE all this, the situation is governed by three new factors, to be disregarded only at the world's peril.

The first is the direct, though not obvious, connection between mechanical speeds and the speed with which human events assail and sometimes overtake us, almost unawares. That is the inevitable result of a too materialistic and too technical civilisation. Men can think, make and organise scientifically enough to produce and to start off jet planes and rockets, but he cannot think fast enough to keep ahead of them when he has let them loose.

The second is that this increasing speed of human events has projected the Ameri-

By ROY SHERWOOD

cans into a situation of wider responsibility than any for which they have had conscious training or gradual preparation—and has done the same thing to the Russians.

The third, complementary to the second, is that the British mind, too, though recognising our diminished status, is incapable of the speed demanded by the new conditions. A few of us, mystifyingly forgetful of the horrors of totalitarianism, side blindly with every word and every act emanating from Moscow; most of us simply take their old thoughts about the Germans off the shelf and, substituting "Russian" or "Communist" on the labels, leave it at that while hanging on to the familiar tenets of worn-out power politics; and only a small minority can see that our long experience of world leadership, together with the new concept of the Welfare State, impose on us the duty of discovering means of reconciling Sovietism and Western Democracy on an altogether higher plane than that of political arrangements and temporary expediency.

### Avoid a packed jury

BUT the more elevated and far-reaching an aim is, the more vital is it, unless it is to become highfalutin' nonsense, that it should find expression in a simple, practical beginning. In this case that lies in close collaboration in the Security Council with India, and in bargaining with the French for a better policy on their part with regard to Indo-China, in exchange for more support for them in their efforts to unify Europe.

Even The Times, speaking of Sir Benegal Rau's proposal that the six non-permanent members of the Security Council should be formed into a committee to study plans for the future of Korea and to examine any proposals for a just and peaceful settlement, says in a leading article on August 19:

"... it is hard to see that anything would have been lost by adopting the latest Indian suggestions at Lake Success."

and rightly continues by pointing out that, since the Council itself will be incapable of producing useful work as long as the Soviet member, acting as chairman, faces the rest of the Council members in a head-on loggerhead situation, such a committee might find the way out of the present impasse.

It would be the more likely to be helpful for the additional reason that this is an Asian proposal, and also because the composition of such a committee—Norway, India, Egypt, Yugoslavia, Cuba and Ecuador—would go some way towards

meeting the ever present Soviet grievance of a "packed jury" sitting in judgment on them.

### That visit to Chiang

OFFICIAL communiques and column-filling particulars of the new military expenditures have not succeeded in altogether hiding the embarrassment caused all over Western Europe, and even among thinking Americans, by General MacArthur's visit to Chiang Kai-shek.

Of all the complications in the foreground of the world picture, this is the most disturbing and the most important.

It is not one of those that can be safely disregarded. A number of our own papers have been pretty outspoken about it, and Alexander Werth, writing from Paris in The New Statesman and Nation, summarises French opinion in these words:

"If the U.S. were to become entangled in a war with China, there would never be an end to it, and the strategic positions of Western Europe and its solidarity with the USA would be hopelessly weakened, much to the joy of Moscow."

The French are also worried, he says, because they feel that "there is not and never has been a joint Anglo-French-American policy in the Far East." To which we may add that there is not and never has been a joint Anglo-French-American policy anywhere on any point of first-class importance, and cannot be one as long as fictitiously prosperous America sees in even the Welfare State something as sinful as most of us see in Sovietism.

### Where America stands today

THIS brings us back to our fundamentals. America stands today where we stood at the height of our power. To expect the kind of understanding from her that has been slowly dinned into us in the last 40 years is a lunatic as it would have been for an office-boy, in the year 1910, flatly to contradict the "guy'nor," or the unemployed to demand full maintenance.

It would be even more lunatic, because our own progress to greatness was gradual, whereas America's world supremacy has been sprung on her with that new speed of world events mentioned earlier on.

To condense this into the shortest possible number of words: Power politics and war cannot prove effective against Communism, but the Americans cannot be expected to see that any more than we should have seen it 50 years ago. If we fail in conciliating Communist and Free Enterprise minds in a new conception of democracy, far transcending mere politics, we shall be failing in the rôle for which our historical development has cast us.

## AFTER KOREA — WHAT?

"The imperative need for the West is a sane and realistic Eastern policy," says

WILFRED WELLOCK

WHO among us really knows what we are fighting for in Korea, or what will be done with victory should it come?

As things are shaping, it is not expected that the Korean war will develop into world war. Hence the vital question arises: What use are we going to make of this precious interim?

The real tragedy in the situation is that the democratic powers have no adequate alternative to Communism.

Before the Korean war they were speculating on whether America could avoid a major slump. At the same time they were proclaiming that the panacea for the cure of Communism was higher standards of living. This must now be dropped, for it is announced that social priorities must give way to military priorities.

From now on there will be plenty of work, but wages will be less, for exports will buy the raw materials of war, not of consumer goods, and standards of living will be lowered. But fear of Communism will compel the U.S. to prevent too great a fall in those standards by shouldering as much as possible of the financial burden of rearmament.

The U.S. is the last financial bridgehead for bolstering the economy of the industrial revolution, and if it is to take the strain, American living standards will have to approximate to European. Yet in no country is discontent on this score so quickly manifested as in America.

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It is assumed that our Western concept of high standards of living is accepted by the East as the embodiment of the good life and the purpose of civilisation. But to the Eastern mind it is laden with evil connotations. America's support of reactionary elements in China, Germany, Greece, Italy, Korea and Formosa, has caused Russian Communism to appear as a force of liberation from Western imperialism.

What, then, should be done? We would do well to ponder the words of Dr. Prasad, President of India, uttered in the 15-day emergency session of Parliament, July 31:

"The conflict in Korea has made it even more necessary than before that there should be co-operation among the independent countries of Asia for the maintenance of peace and the preservation of their own freedom."

Pandit Nehru struck the same note three days later in opening a Debate on the Korean issue.

There was little awareness, he said, in the minds of the Western world of what was in the minds and hearts of the East. Asia was wide-awake and felt her poverty a disgrace, and there was a sense of social inequality.

"Yet leading statesmen of the Western world," he added, "try to solve Asiatic problems without consulting us. We are asked to say 'ditto'. I am not prepared to say 'ditto' to any country."

Let us take warning: those are the two most powerful voices in the non-Communist East today.

From now on, any event which strengthens the Western hold upon the East will be the red light to every Eastern forward movement.

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The imperative need, therefore, is for the Western powers to evolve a sane Eastern policy.

What is immediately wanted is a rational development programme for all the impoverished areas of the earth, practically all of which are inhabited by coloured peoples and have been, and many still are being, exploited by the industrial Powers of the West. Hence the programme would be some atonement for past and present wrongs.

It should, however, be recognised from the first that to attempt to cultivate or stimulate in the East the materialistic spirit of the West would be an unspeakable tragedy. The aim should be to establish an economy which has regard to Eastern values, that is, to man's spiritual as well as his material needs.

This might mean the establishment of an agro-industrial village economy on the lines of the Gandhian economy, and carried to success by Kagawa and others over wide areas of China and to some extent in Japan. Small-scale industry run by co-operative groups, or guilds, in well-integrated villages whose politics largely consists of organising their own economic life, provides the best basis for a sound peace economy, a village democracy and the fullest development of human personality. By affording

to the common people responsibility, creative opportunity and vital community relationships, it permits the development of the whole man and the realisation of both spiritual and economic values.

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If, on the contrary, the West sought to erect in the East and in Africa, replicas of Western capitalist or even Socialist industrialism, within 30 years the East would flood the world's markets with surplus goods, and its governments with problems graver than those which today are rocking the world to its doom.

The West has sacrificed man and most of his spiritual values to mechanisms for profit and power. It is perhaps for the East to rescue the spirit of man from this servitude.

Recently Mr. Attlee asked this nation to "take risks for peace." The risks he had in mind were those of building up great military power. The risks which the world awaits, and on which peace now entirely depends, are those of active goodwill.

### HOPE

ALTHOUGH not being clear for what reason I have not subscribed to Headquarters Fund for so long. I would like to see the total grow, and enclose a Postal Order as I can't be bothered to cash it." So a recent letter from a reader of Peace News.

We have often said that one reason why many who are in full sympathy with our work and would really be concerned if the PPU were not able to carry on its witness from lack of funds do not help as financially is because they cannot be bothered to buy a Postal Order and post it. But here is the other side—and perhaps the solution.

Why not send us the next cheque or Postal Order which you receive, and save yourself the bother of cashing it? Or the next time you are buying a book of stamps, will you buy an extra one and send it to HQ Fund? We are glad of any help, however small—or large!

STUART MORRIS

Total received to date: £332 0s. 3d.  
Our aim for the year—with only four months to go: £650.

Donations to the Peace Pledge Union should be sent marked "Headquarters Fund" to the PPU Treasurer at Dick Sheppard House, Endsleigh Street, W.C.1.

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## GERMAN QUAKERS from East and West MEET IN BERLIN

From Konrad Braun

THE German Society of Friends is a small body of some 500 members with which a greater number of "Friends of the Friends" co-operate.

Their attempt to put into practice the principles of brotherly love and creative peace in all spheres of life is bound to be a daring experiment in a country so widely destroyed, occupied by foreign powers, politically divided and full of fear and anticipations. But there are strong personalities among the German Quakers. Their groups show much life and a great variety of activities in the spheres of education and welfare.

This year Berlin had been chosen for the annual meeting of the Society, which was held at the end of July. Thus many Friends resident in Eastern Germany could attend in addition to many more who came from the West by rail and road and plane. Visiting Friends had arrived from Austria, Denmark, Great Britain, Sweden, Switzerland and the U.S.

### Peace posters in both Sectors

Apart from the more formal business sessions there were group discussions on the religious and social problems of our time and a very serious exchange of views and experiences in the full meeting. The Quaker testimony against all war was reaffirmed by the Yearly Meeting in a simple and dignified statement.

During Yearly Meeting, a message of goodwill to all men appeared on posters in all parts of Berlin; to get permission for their distribution from the rival city authorities of Western and Eastern Berlin was in itself a remarkable achievement.

In the evening following the end of Yearly Meeting, Quaker speakers from four countries addressed a large audience in Western Berlin on the implications of a true peace.

The next night, a similar address was given to a smaller gathering in the Eastern sector.

The German Quakers went through considerable dangers and difficulties under the Nazi regime and have shared with their fellow countrymen the sufferings of the post-war period. They are facing the uncertainties of the future calmly and bravely, confident that God will help them.

## Peace News in the Libraries SALISBURY COUNCIL LOOKS AT PN

THE following discussion at a meeting of Salisbury City Council arose from an offer, by a member of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, to supply the public library with copies of Peace News and Reconciliation. The report is reprinted from the Salisbury Times, Aug. 4, 1950.

The public library committee reported that Miss M. Cane, of 4 Canadian Avenue, had offered to supply Peace News (weekly) and Reconciliation (monthly) for use in the reading-room, and they recommended that the offer be accepted.

Ald. Bridge said he had listened to the Prime Minister's speech when he referred to good intentioned people who were sometimes led astray by reading propaganda which really should not be brought forward at this time. In view of this speech he moved that the matter be referred back.

In the course of the discussion there were references to Communism, Mr. Bigwood saying they ought to know something about Peace News. Was it published or sponsored by Communist people? If it was, he would vote and speak against it, and he took it that everyone else would do the same as loyal Englishmen.

Ald. Medway said Peace News was a paper run by the sponsors of Dick Sheppard and Reconciliation was published by the Society of Friends. He had taken them for years.

After the Mayor had said the offer was made by a lady who for many years had been interested in the Fellowship of Reconciliation, which was an organisation connected principally with the churches, the amendment was lost and the minute carried. Ald. Bridge saying he only moved the reference back so that the council could have an opportunity of seeing Peace News.

### For the record

Alderman Medway was not quite correct. Peace News has on its Board of Directors members of Friends Peace Committee and other pacifist organisations besides Dick Sheppard's Peace Pledge Union. Reconciliation is the organ of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, not of the Society of Friends. Libraries in the following places display Peace News, figures in parenthesis indicate the number of branches taking copies. Birmingham (28); Blackheath (4); Bristol (2); Coventry (5); Eltham; Halifax (2); Hull (9); Kidderminster; Kilmarnock (3); Loughton; Merthyr Tydfil; Norwich; Plumstead; Poole (3); St. Albans; Salisbury; Truro; Willesden (6); Whitechapel; Woolwich.

In the 1930's Peace News was displayed in over 400 libraries. A complete post-war list has yet to be compiled. Is PN in your Public Library?

"I HOPE THERE WILL BE MILLIONS OF COs"

## MP replies to attack on pacifists

THE hope that the number of conscientious objectors to military service throughout the world would swell to millions was expressed by Rhys J. Davies, MP, last week in a letter to the Western Mail.

He was replying to an attack on pacifists by the vicar of Milford Haven, Rev. Haydn Parry, MC, who a week previously had declared:

"Those who dodged the last war and those who have landed us in this fine pickle in which we now find ourselves should be put into uniform straight away and placed in the front of the firing line."

"The only way to prevent war is to be strong and ready for war. The Government has listened too much to blind and idiotic peacemongers. It is the duty of every citizen to be fit and to be ready to defend and to die for his country."

Replying to this attack, Rhys Davies said:

"If all the leaders of the Christian Church adopted that childish and intolerant attitude, then it would be a blessing if the doors of every place of worship in Christendom were closed for ever."

"He forgets that every minister of the Gospel, himself included, are exempt from military service under the law; and it ill becomes any clergyman, therefore, to hide behind a clerical collar and denounce others who wish they were similarly exempt."

"He forgets, too, that it does not follow, when a man is dressed in military uniform, that he will of necessity fight. He may feel that it is about time these few statesmen of every country alike, who are responsible for the quarrel, and especially those who support them, might for once in a while do some of the foul work themselves."

"In any event, there were about 11,000 conscientious objectors (pacifists) in World War I; they grew to nearly 60,000 in World War II. Let us hope that their number all over the world will grow into millions if a third world war breaks out."

In another letter to the Western Mail, the Rector of Clydall reminded the Rev. Haydn Parry that his intolerant attitude towards pacifists was in defiance of the World Council of Churches.

## INTOLERANT LEGISLATION IN AUSTRALIA

AN Australian pacifist, David Bottomley, told the Ealing and Uxbridge PPU Group recently something about legislation opposed during the last few years by Australian pacifists.

There is actually no "White Australia Act," but it has been the policy for many years of both Labour and Conservative parties to operate the Immigration Act in such a way that no coloured person may settle in Australia.

The policy is always defended on the grounds that "coloured peoples in Australia would lower the standard of living." Never is racial prejudice admitted.

Nevertheless, the operation of the Act has given offence in recent years to Indonesians, Philipinos and Indians. America and Canada have fundamentally the same policy, but by allowing small numbers of immigrants from any country each year, they avoid implying that other races are inferior.

### Rocket range protest

A rocket range was established in Australia shortly after the war. The range, which is designed to test rocket weapons, will, in its final stages, be 3,500 miles long. Rockets will be fired in South Australia, across the Centre and out to islands in the Pacific.

Pacifist organisations, churches and the Communist Party objected to its establishment, partly because they objected to the rocket range as such, and partly because Aborigines would be displaced from their tribal grounds.

The Labour Government replied by introducing the Defence of Approved Projects Act. This act imposes heavy penalties for sabotage or verbal "criticism of Defence projects declared "Approved." Its clauses make possible the imprisoning of a minister or a pacifist, or any other person who, in a public speech, exhorted men to refuse to work on such a scheme.

Finally, in addition to the various States Crimes Acts spawned by the Depression, by which processions may be "declared" and participants imprisoned, is added the Communist Party Dissolution Bill.

This Bill, introduced by Menzies' Conservative Government, is supported by the majority of the people. By it, the Communist Party and "front" organisations such as the Australian Peace Council (which collects signatures for the Stockholm "ban the atom-bomb" petition) may be declared illegal, their property confiscated and any members of these organisations who continue to work for them may be imprisoned.

### In S. Africa's footsteps

The bill will also cause any person who is a Communist or has been a member of any association declared unlawful since May 10, 1948, to be denied employment in the Commonwealth Civil Service or any essential industry such as coalmining or engineering. The onus will be placed on the person to prove before the High Court that he is not "likely to engage in activity prejudicial to law and security."

The Labour Party objects to this "onus of proof" clause, but agrees in principle with the bill. As they hold a majority in the Senate, they may delay its passing; but Menzies is determined to force its enactment. When passed, its constitutional validity is certain to be contested in the High Court, but whether or not the bill becomes law, Australia, like South Africa, is re-defining the word "Democracy."

David Bottomley was recently appointed PPU Secretary for the South-Western Region.

## Ten Years Ago

From Peace News, August 23, 1940

They have smashed the signpost on Scafell Pike!

By such puny gestures man exerts his will and tries to exasperate his neighbours—who are for the moment his enemies. The mountain, Scafell, retains its contours and scarcely seems to notice the loss.

Many a German boy visiting our Youth Hostels in the days before Hitler's régime must have clambered up the last slopes and read the sign pointing to Borrowdale and a warm welcome in the next of the Hostels beyond. That night English and Germans sang their folk songs round the fire and perhaps talked of the folly that was ours who fought as enemies at Paschendale in 1917.

Now the folly is being repeated and we are removing the signposts and the labels on hostels to prevent some mythical parachutist—a German youth maybe—from finding his way down the mountainside should he be so unfortunate as to fall on its rugged slopes.

The madness that seems to have seized many otherwise normal people has not yet penetrated into all the corners where friendship is generated. At Youth Hostels they still sing German songs and when one "patriot" raised his voice in protest the other night he was shouted down by a chorus of "why not?"

—John Barclay

## PEACE SERVICES

The first Friday in every month, commencing September 1, will see an intercession service for peace in St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church.

The Rev. Paul Gliddon will conduct the first; following will be, in order, Rev. Alan Balding, Vera Brittain, and Canon T. B. Scrutton. The time of each is 1.30.

## FACTS AND FIGURES

### XII. Switching to War Production

THE unfortunate phrase "Guns or Butter" is a somewhat misleading and oversimplified description of the decision on switching productive resources from peaceful uses to the manufacturing of arms. What are the economic consequences.

In "normal" times production is conducted with a view to satisfying the multitudinous demands of consumers. If production of war materials becomes "first priority" a central planning of the use of resources, with reimposition of controls, is inevitable.

Production programmes of firms—regarding the supply of goods for various requirements: home market, exports, Government orders, new productive equipment—are upset by the sudden and vast rearmament. Prices of several industrial raw materials (rubber, tin, lead, wool, etc.) have already gone up considerably and retail prices will follow suit (as described in PN on July 21). This trend may be seen also in the United States, where a general inflation is developing.

Economic conditions in Britain showed good progress in the first six months of 1950. Industrial production was 10 per cent. higher, on the average, than in the first half of 1949 and the "£-gap" (deficit of the Balance of Payments with America) has been closed. But the rearmament programme jeopardises as progress towards a "balanced economy" and brings not only political but also economic uncertainties.

It has been suggested that about 10 per cent. of the total output ("gross national product") should be reserved for military purposes. Even if the U.S. Treasury provides a substantial "financial aid" for the cover of raw material imports and part of the military expenditure, cuts in the supply years are shown below:

### INVESTMENTS in CAPITAL GOODS in the U.K.

(£ million)	1948	1949	1950 (a)
Housing (incl. repairs) ... ..	492	475	451
Fuel and Power, Transport ... ..	504	588	572
Manufacturing Industries ... ..	424	445	450
Agriculture and Fishery ... ..	81	81	81
Social Services, Education ... ..	69	90	107
Other Items ... ..	92	111	125
	1,662	1,790	1,786

(a) Original programme for 1950, at end-of-1949 prices.

SOURCE: Economic Survey, 1950, p. 52.

NOTE: The above ESTIMATES (Cmd. 7915) "are subject to a wide margin of error." Owing to continuous rise in prices the "real" increase in investments after 1948 is less than the increase in indicated money values.

The Memorandum of the British Government to President Truman, published on Aug. 4, referred to the "real and substantial sacrifice by the British people in connection with the £3,400 m. rearmament programme."

The main economic disadvantages may be summarised as follows:

1. DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION will be cut as a larger slice of total output will be used for military purposes:

2. THE EXPORT-POSITION will be weakened (loss of markets) as resources will be directed to rearmament;

3. CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

(means of production, housing, etc.) will decline, in consequence of the use of manpower and equipment for manufacturing of arms;

4. COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT, aiming at higher standards of living and utilising of new resources, will be retarded and neglected.

An alternative must be found to the "drive for arms production": mutual concessions and international co-operation in the peaceful development of the world's resources in order to raise the peoples' standard of living—instead of preparing destruction.

F.R.



## TWO IDEAS FOR PEACE ACTION

## A Peace Research Laboratory?

This appeal for new and arresting methods of waging peace comes from the well-known film director and playwright.

ADRIAN BRUNEL

His recent book, "Nice Work," tells the story of Adrian Brunel's career in the film industry. He was in charge of film scenarios and production at the Ministry of Information from 1917-18. Producer and Founder, with Leslie Howard, of Minerva Films, 1920. Production Consultant to Leslie Howard 1940-42. Amongst the best known films he has directed are *While Parents Sleep*, *The Constant Nymph*, *Blighty*, *Variety*, *The City of Beautiful Nonsense*, *The Crooked Billet*, *The Vortex*, *The Man Without Desire* and *Badger's Green*.

FOR the purpose of killing in war time, so-called civilised countries will spend half their financial wealth. In "peace" time, while still impoverished by a previous war, their mis-Governments will spend vast amounts in preparations for another war. (This they call Defence.)

Meanwhile, the people everywhere long for peace and security, though they may stand dithering and inactive, believing that they are powerless to stop war—as if war were a natural phenomenon, like sunrise.

Millions are spent everywhere on various forms of war research, but next to nothing is spent on peace research—in fact, I have never heard of "peace research" in any government's budget. In America, for instance, the United States was spending for "defence" a sum (which has since been increased) that was 625 times more than it was spending on the United Nations Organisation.

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Propaganda is streaming out everywhere in favour of spending more and more on war preparations, whereas any trivial amounts which could possibly be construed as peace preparations are grudgingly, attacked and pared down.

All this is going on without our consent. On all sides we are so bombarded with false arguments and lies that many who dread war are forced to give the impression of supporting war. This is "undue influence" and cannot be classed as free consent. They are hypnotised by those who are themselves hypnotised by fear and by antiquated theories—a vicious circle based on the dread of war.

They say that we get the governments we deserve, but that does not absolve us from speaking out. It might be too harsh a judgment on those who are silent, to say that they deserve to be inflicted with war; to say that in these "times that try men's souls" those who will not speak up for peace because they are afraid of being dubbed "Communists," cowards or unpatriotic, should have to bear the horrible fate of war, but the fact remains that we can hardly claim to deserve peace without working for it.

"Yes, but what can I do?" a woman pathetically asked me the other day. On the spur of the moment I advised her to engage in the conventional forms of propaganda and agitation; to write to her MP; to the BBC; to the papers and to urge her friends to do the same; to agitate within any organisation she belonged to, that they should collectively demand peace; to join a peace society; to give and collect money for peace; to sign and to collect signatures for peace petitions; to distribute leaflets; to attend peace meetings; to join in and/or organise poster parades, and so on.

When I had finished I realised that I should always have on me a leaflet enumerating the things she and other could do, and I realised, also, that this is one of the first tasks which could be undertaken by a Peace Research Laboratory, backed by all peace societies and by individual peace workers.

Money and other prizes, medals, awards, certificates or what you will, should be given every month to those who suggest the best activities for peace workers.

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Effective as the old methods can be, we need new and arresting methods for waging peace; the rifle was effective enough for waging war, until we had the machine gun, shrapnel was sufficiently devastating until we had the high-explosive bomb dropped from the air, and as "necessity" demanded, so we have thought of bigger and better ways of slaughtering more and more men, women and children. But in waging peace, we have stood still.

Active workers for peace are doing magnificent work all over the world, but they cannot be expected to produce all the bright ideas we need; for every ten such valiant souls there are a thousand who are doing nothing, but who are capable of producing one grand, new idea.

It is not enough, however, to bombard our rulers with insistent demands for peace, because many of them are as defeatist, ignorant, obstinate or dithering as the ordinary citizen who imagines he is doomed

or powerless. And here is where our Peace Research Laboratory comes in again. Let it offer further awards for practical suggestions for legislators, diplomats and others to act upon. (A very helpful beginning in this respect has been made by the American Committee of Quakers, with their pamphlet, "The United States and the Soviet Union," to be bought at Friends' House, Euston, or Peace News, Ltd., for 1s.).

In a French newspaper recently, I saw pictures of a sort of relay race across France by peace workers. Everywhere the runners were met by cheering crowds, while supporters distributed leaflets. It was a grand idea and is the sort of thing we could suggest—and adopt—here. And not only runners, but cyclists could make similar blazings of the trail for peace, as well as motorists and those with motor-boats and yachts.

Think of Pluto and Bailey Bridges; these inventions were evolved from urgent necessity. There is no end to what we can devise for such a great cause as ours. Let us pass on our suggestions to peace workers abroad and of course adopt suggestions ourselves from other countries. New ideas, new stunts, anything to capture public imagination and force the world to sanity.

Let us get to work at once. As individuals, as members of organisations, let us achieve what the defeatists would regard as the impossible. Think of all those little boats and their great work of rescue at Dunkirk. That is what we can do.

## Is a General Strike against war possible?

To the Editor

RICHARD HAWKIN'S letter (Aug. 18) raises one point, he says that the strike method would have to be "an international strike of course; not merely a strike in Britain but in other countries also."

In practice this would be desirable, but an international strike can only be such, if it takes effect in countries within the orbit of the Soviet Union, and also in America, where there appears to be developing a highly neurotic warlike condition. By all means try for it, but it would be more realistic to go ahead in this country irrespective of what may transpire outside.

THE RISKS

I am not a Communist and have never been a member of the Communist Party, and most probably would find myself in direct opposition to many of their methods of administration, but I would advocate that steps should be taken immediately to contact all sympathetic groups, organisations, and individuals, irrespective of politics or philosophies to agree on a fundamental policy of bringing the authorities to heel on this question of war, by threatening to withdraw co-operation—on a non-violent basis—after due warning has been given.

It is most probable that should this action prove successful here, and abroad, the Western Defence system would collapse, and let in Communists either in the form of an invasion or a coup d'état, and probably many of the people who co-operated with them in trying to stop this coming war, would find themselves co-operating against them under their administration. But I think that we have a first duty to risk all in an endeavour to save many of the fine things which actually exist today, and build from them.

The alternative being a greater risk of complete destruction with all the evils that go with it.

It is illogical that there is a Trade Union System designed to protect one's livelihood in terms of wage agreements and rights and privileges within industry, but no such system to protect one against the far more dreadful effects of modern scientific warfare.

A MASS WALK-OUT

There are very many simple ways in which a strike could be enforced; when the war was declared in 1939, the Government appealed to all citizens "to pursue their normal occupations in order that war could be successfully prosecuted." The alternative to such a request is to pursue an

## Where Italy's young war resisters are imprisoned



MARIO BARBANI, the Italian conscript whose courageous act in walking out of the ranks and placing his rifle at the foot of an inspecting general during a military review was reported in Peace News recently, is imprisoned with two other Italian conscientious objectors in the prison fortress of Gaeta, shown above.

At his trial, Barbani, declared that his action and statement "I lay down the arms that have been committed to me personally; I do not wish to find myself in the conditions of having to fire on a fellow man," did not constitute an "action likely to cause a public scandal,"—one of the additional charges against him.

He contended that his superior officer had not taken him seriously when he had earlier declared his inability to attend the review, hence he had presented himself to the inspecting General (Gen. Marras) in person to explain his views.

To the Military Tribunal President's question whether he realised that there would soon be no army if everybody acted in that manner, he replied that he did realise. During the Italian Risorgimento the Italian patriots had no need of military instruction to rise against the enemies of the country; they needed and they possessed a spiritual and idealistic preparation, without which no cause could be defended.

It emerged in examination that Barbani, municipal designer, belonged to no trade union or political party, but had acted out of purely personal conscientious scruples.

The defence claimed for him the "attenuating conditions" permitted in cases of "particular moral and social value." After an hour's withdrawal the Tribunal condemned Barbani to one year's imprisonment with the said conditions. He was applauded by 60 or so young men, including a Catholic priest.

Imprisoned with Barbani are Pietro Ferrua, who refused to put on military uniform and another conscientious objector, Elevoine Santi. Their treatment is said to be severe and censorship rigid.

In reporting the imprisonment of the COs in Gaeta, the Italian journal L'Incontro points out that it was to this prison the Italian hero Mazzini was sent in August, 1870, and from which he wrote the following lines: "I am very sad, but not on account of my imprisonment. . . Here I have the immense distance of the Italian sea before me, and the Italian firmament above my head. It is enough; before dying I want to see a new Italy, the ideal of my soul and life."

## In the front line for peace

NEW ZEALAND

IN the first six-months of conscription for 18-year-olds, 60 New Zealand boys have refused military service and been registered as conscientious objectors. A large number of those liable for military service have not registered and warnings have gone out to employers that they must ask employees of registration age to produce registration certificates.

HOLLAND

SINCE 1947 the following sentences have been given to young soldiers refusing to continue military service:

3-3½ years imprisonment	3
2½-3	18
2-2½	9
1½-2	17
1-1½	14
¾-1	11
0-¾	14

Court martial decisions in the cases of 40 other soldiers with objections to continuing military service did not involve imprisonment.

AUSTRALIA

A LIGHTNING poll conducted by the Melbourne High School's magazine, The Sentinel, on the question "Are you in favour of compulsory military training?" resulted as follows:

Form	For	Against	Undecided
	%	%	%
III	58	39	3
IV	46	51	5
V	45	50	1
VI	33	66	

"As counting was made very carefully," says The Sentinel, "these figures can be taken as indicating opinion fairly accurately."

HUGH H. BROCK

79 Lordship Park,

N.16.

(Other letters on pages 6 and 7.)



# LEADERS AND THE LED

By Cyril Hughes

TRUST it is not too late to comment on a recent highly important political event of which I feel sufficient notice was not taken at the time. I refer to the House of Lords debate on military discipline.

It was reassuring to note that the House of Lords rejected a motion, moved by Admiral of the Fleet the Earl of Cork and Orrery, to protect soldiers from war crimes charges if they acted under orders.

Was it? Lord Cork pointed out that the present position "brought a new element of anxiety to those who had to carry out orders and paved the way to disruption of all discipline." Lord Tovey visualised some young fellow, being sent up in an aeroplane with an atomic bomb and ordered to drop it, who might say, "This is entirely contrary to humanity."

One can sympathise with their lordships before the shuddering prospects. But the Lord Chancellor insisted and the House agreed by 21 votes to 19, that "it is a principle both of English law and international law that acting on superior orders is not a defence if what is done is obviously improper and would shock the conscience of any decent man."

The Chancellor did not add that the decision as to what is improper and conscience—shocking invariably rests with the victor. Neither did he provide any useful definition as to what constitutes a decent man.

But what if, as in Korea, the ultimate outcome of the struggle is doubtful? The House of Lords decision seems to put the choice no longer in the hands of the leaders, but of the led.

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Our leaders, if the newspapers are any guide, are all more than somewhat nervous, jumpy and lost. The led, on the other hand, appear to have certain definite ideas on the international situation, to judge by their actions.

For instance, Colonel A. Gomme-Duncan said in Parliament recently that: "A call had been made for Civil Defence volunteers. They did not come. A call was made for Territorials. They did not come. Young people did not come forward as they used to, and this was a clear indication of faulty education."

Too many conchy schoolteachers, no doubt, but even those who do join up may have ulterior motives. The Under-Secretary to the War Office told the Commons the other week: "I have examined the figures of the number endeavouring to enlist and there is a striking correlation between them and the number unemployed."

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There we are. We, the led, are, it would seem, letting our leader down. We are failing to recognise the seriousness of the situation, to take the necessary steps, etc., etc. We are in danger of agreeing with the American soldier at the Korean front who said: "This is a bloody useless war." (For reporting which remark an American war correspondent was subsequently banned from the front on a charge of giving "comfort to the enemy.")

We may even forget the need for instant obedience and, because of our silly Christian consciences, refuse to drop an atom bomb at the crucial moment. In fairness, therefore, to the courage and sincerity of Messrs. Attlee and Churchill, we should at once set about repairing our faulty education.

Mr. Aneurin Bevan has been trying to educate a tough bunch of Durham miners by telling them: "We now know that unless you maintain international law you don't maintain the peace. Unless we are prepared to stand by international obligations war is certain."

Which, being paraphrased, means that the way to prevent a world war breaking out in a couple of years time is to have it now.

Mr. Bevan also said: "There is no one in Great Britain or America who wants war." We take leave to doubt this, having read in the financial column of a newspaper the same day that the war situation has caused a boom in iron and steel shares, and that aircraft shares enjoyed a boost "on hopes of big rearmament orders."

Now, faultily educated brothers, Britain is now due for rearmament. We trust that for the sake of national discipline, and so that the led will continue to follow where the leaders hope to lead, Peace News will make it clear that we have hitherto been spending a thousand million a year on disarmament.

## YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED

The North Atlantic Defence Treaty is to create the position of Chief of Staff for propaganda.

—World's Press News, Aug. 4, 1950

# Pacifist Portraits

THE "glossy" Society papers before the first World War used frequently to publish pictures of a certain Major with a caption saying something to the effect that "Major — is the handsomest officer in the British Army." Well, if the pacifist movement is on the look out for its best looking member Jack Catchpool (whatever the evidence of the accompanying half-tone portrait) will have a very high place in the voting list.

Egerton St. John Pettifer Catchpool, better known as "Jack," is the son of Thomas and Florence Catchpool, and brother of T. Corder Catchpool, a Sponsor of the PPU. He was born at Leicester 60 years ago—but looks ten years younger. Thirty years ago he married Ruth Wilson, daughter of those stalwart elder supporters of the CO in the First War, the late Henry Lloyd Wilson and Theodora M. Wilson, of Selly Oak.

Jack and Ruth Catchpool have a family of sons and daughters, but in a sense the whole of the great Youth Hostel membership of 250,000 is their family too. Jack Catchpool, more than any other individual is responsible for the growth and success of this great movement which is celebrating its majority this month. The historian G. M. Trevelyan, O.M., Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, and President of the YHA once said: "I have only been its figurehead, and the credit for the success of the Youth Hostels lies not at all with me but entirely with Catchpool and the democracy of his fellow workers."

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JACK'S apprenticeship to this work has been varied. He has been secretary of the Friends Social Union (late the Friends Industrial and Social Order Committee), and from 1920 to 1927 he was sub-warden of Toynbee Hall under Dr. J. J. Mallon. He was the first secretary of the International Association of Settlements, and has been secretary of the Welwyn Garden City Association.

After being in the Friends Ambulance Unit as a volunteer in the early part of World War I, he came back to England when conscription was imposed and went before a conscientious objector's tribunal. He then went out to Russia with the Friends War Victims Relief Committee in 1916, first to Moscow, and then as a dispenser to Andrevka, on the Volga.

Later he received an urgent call from the Lord Mayor of London's Refugee Committee to work among the Armenian refugees in the wild country around Mount Ararat. Here there were some villages of fanatical Moslems, some of devil worshippers (yezedi) and some of Assyrian Christians, besides the Armenians. His powers as a pacificator had good training in this setting.

On one occasion he was asked to arbitrate on the rival claims of several villages to ownership of a certain cow. Finally he suggested the best way out was to let his Armenian orphanage keep the beast for the



E. St. John Catchpool

benefit of the children. Everyone was satisfied, each village because the cow had not been awarded to its neighbour!

In 1918 the Turkish Armies advanced into the South Caucasus and Jack Catchpool had to retire with the Russian forces, and for a period he was engaged in fighting cholera in the Moscow area.

In the troubled post-Great War period the White Russians and the Czechs in Russia continued their fight against the Bolsheviks. They started the barbarous practice of collecting "Red" hostages, usually women, whom they sent to a fortress at Ufa in the Lower Urals. The Red Army retaliated by taking hostages also.

However in due course Catchpool was approached by several Bolshevik leaders as a trustworthy person, and was asked by men like Chicherin and Trotsky to act as mediator with the Whites to bring about an abandonment of the practice of taking hostages and arrange for the return of those already taken.

Armed with this Bolshevik authority and with 12 letters from neutral Consulates to prove his disinterestedness—but armed with nothing else, though most of his friends could not understand why he felt so much safer without any weapons—Jack Catchpool travelled three days by special train to the front, and then went on horseback through devastated country until finally he reached the "White" headquarters.

All seemed going well and he was planning to return from a successful mission when suddenly he was arrested and court-martialed on the charge of being a spy and carrying false papers. Happily he was able to prove the charges to be untrue, but he was not allowed to return to Moscow. He was, instead, sent under escort into Siberia, and finally reached Britain again only after travelling home via the Far East, Japan, Singapore, and Palestine.

The latter had to be visited because when Jack was in the Caucasus he had been entrusted with some precious ancient papyri by the monks of Etchmidsin who were

# Atomic Decontamination

What happens when a building becomes radioactive? A British hospital has already suffered a small-scale atomic blitz as the result of an accident. Something of the consequences are told in this article by John Rowland, B.Sc., author of "Understanding the Atom," and "Atoms, Electrons, and Rays."

THERE seems to be a deliberate attempt in many quarters, Parliamentary and other, to "play down" the difficulties of defence against atomic weapons.

A recent accident (not extensively reported in the Press) which happened at a hospital in the Midlands, however, suggests that the problem of decontamination may be even more difficult and serious than was previously thought, or than is admitted to those who volunteer for civil defence work.

It was on Sunday morning, September 11, 1949, that a hollow platinum needle, containing about 25 milligrams of radium, broke, without the staff of the hospital where it was in use becoming aware of the fact for some time. It was actually some 24 hours before the accident was discovered, and by this time the radium had been widely spread about the premises, mainly by being carried on the shoes of the staff.

A paper describing the accident, and written by F. H. Crosse, H. Miller and L. E. Mussell, is likely to appear in the scientific press. This will give full details of the accident and its aftermath. But meanwhile some of the facts are available, and make tragic reading, when combined with the thought that the governments of most countries seem to be envisaging the possible outbreak of atomic war with comparative stoicism, and regarding the problems of civil defence as mere variations on what was done during 1939-45.

When we bear in mind that the amount of radium was merely 25 milligrams, it seems impossible, though it is true, that the work of clearing it up took five months.

The radium had, in fact, contaminated the dust in the hospital building and had been widely scattered on carpets, in the cracks between floor-boards, which had to be pulled up, on walls, in waste pipes, and in the lofts above. About two-thirds of the original radium was eventually recovered, but masses of carpets, clothing, etc., had to be destroyed, and considerable structural alteration to the hospital building was necessary before it was regarded as safe for use.

Radium, of course, is much more persistent in its effects than those largely artificially radioactive materials which are used in atomic bombs. But on the other hand, while there has naturally been no disclosure of the actual amount of radioactive material in a bomb, it is quite certainly hundreds of times greater than the amount of radium which was scattered over the wards of that hospital last autumn.

It seems extremely doubtful whether the civil defence authorities in any country, on either side of the so-called "iron curtain," have really faced up to this problem of atomic decontamination. For if any quantity of radioactive material were dropped on a great city (quite apart from the damage done by the actual explosion and the resultant heat) it would probably take many weeks of work by skilled decontamination squads before the streets and buildings would be usable.

It is against such a background that appeals for civil defence personnel should be regarded. But it seems unlikely that Members of Parliament will see fit to discuss this aspect of the matter. Too much discussion might make people see that defence against atomic weapons is not so much impossible as absurd.

fearful for their safety. This fear was justified, for a few months later their library and building were burnt to the ground by the advancing Turks.

For much of his journey home Catchpool kept the documents in a belt round his waist. When on Easter Sunday, 1919, he was finally able to hand them over safely to the monks of a sister monastery at Jerusalem, he was entertained by the monks at a feast of thankfulness and made a *Yeck-bairer Lucine* (Brother of Light).

★

BACK in Europe and in close contact with Quaker and other work in Germany during the 1920s, Jack Catchpool was much struck by the possibilities of the enthusiastic Vandervogel movement of young people in Germany. He studied it and after consultation with others sought to see how its best features could be adapted and adopted for the benefit of the younger generation in Britain.

Thus the Youth Hostel Movement was born. Jack Catchpool was its unpaid secretary for some time. Since those days, 21 years ago, a minimum of two million and perhaps almost double that number of young people, have enjoyed the simple hospitality of the 300 hostels which now dot the whole of the country. If you want to read about this little romance you will find it in *The Hostel Story* by Oliver Coburn (7s. 6d.).

Some of us to whom Jack Catchpool explained his early plans and outlined his dreams for the future thought him a visionary. He had his castles in the air certainly, but some of these castles (as well as old mills, mansions and Army huts too) soon became well patronised Youth Hostels where people could put up—in those early days—for a shilling a night!

The scheme had "caught on," and the doubters were proved wrong.

"Catchpool's 'rightness' has consisted in an extraordinary gift for taking the world's good will for granted and then pulling every wire to make the most of it," declared Stanley Baron, in his Open Road section of the News Chronicle the other day. "It is a method," he continues, "which backed by imagination, charm, blarney and completely selfless devotion to the cause, must nearly always be irresistible. Few men have maddened so many, only to make them his forgiving, life-long friends."

"High-ups" have no terrors for Jack. He will approach a peer or a President as cheerfully and confidently as he will ask the help of a porter or a postmistress. In 1937 he personally explained to President Roosevelt his exchange membership scheme for Youth Hostel members in many countries. Franklin Roosevelt exclaimed, "How delightful and simple!"

Jack then told the President of his further scheme which still awaits fulfilment, for a Youth Hostel Ship plying between Europe and America. The President was enthusiastic and told Jack that when his own scheme for an international highway from the far north of Canada, through the United States into Mexico, and eventually on southwards into South America, was realised, he looked to seeing Youth Hostels every few miles along the whole road.

★

AT the YHA "majority" birthday celebrations taking place this week there are 3,000 hostellers in camp in Hertfordshire, representing 24 countries. These celebrations will culminate on August 26 in the great Coming of Age Festival in the Royal Albert Hall, London and a demonstration in Hyde Park when, amid folk dancing and singing and other joyful "goings-on" a golden oak will be planted to mark the occasion.

It all seems a case of the story of Jack and the Beanstalk coming true. Jack Catchpool planted some ideas about youth hostels 21 years ago. They immediately sprang up and grew and grew. The movement has become an important element in training the world in ideas of peace by its promotion of opportunities for people of differing types, tastes and countries to meet together on common ground—literally—and giving them the chance under God's heaven, His sun and His stars, to learn to know and understand one another.

Cheerful, ingenious, persistent and still good-looking, Jack has climbed the stalk grew, and he will go on climbing with it, tending the now lusty plant and, no doubt, training it into new and useful directions, for although he retires from the National Secretaryship of the YHA next month, he will remain President of the International YHA. One is tempted to wonder whether, when the YHA celebrates its Jubilee in 1979—Jack Catchpool will be only 89 at the time—we may perhaps hear him announce the opening of one more new aerial Youth Hostel in the stratosphere, somewhere on the road between the Earth and the Moon.

## IRENOUNCEWARANDIWILL NEVER SUPPORT OR SANCTION ANOTHER

This pledge, signed by each member, is the basis of the Peace Pledge Union. Send YOUR pledge to

P.P.U. HEADQUARTERS

Dick Sheppard House, Endsleigh St., WCI



## Principles and Practice

**I** DON'T believe in acting according to principles," said Pastor Martin Niemöller in a recent speech in Manhattan.

Because pacifism is a principle—says Time in reporting the speech—he does not want to be considered a pacifist; though he no longer believes that anything can be achieved by violence.

What he does believe in, however, is "meeting each specific situation in the presence and love of Jesus Christ. Principles cannot guard you against lack of love. They are more likely to do just the opposite, and give you a false sense of righteousness." And on the menace of Communism, Pastor Niemöller—who spent eight years in a concentration camp for his opposition to Hitler—remarks that Christians should always be on the offensive against the secular society, whether capitalist or Communist. "The only thing that can do away with the Church is the Church itself, by its unfaithfulness."

### What We are doing

**T**HE present world situation offers plenty of scope for practice.

The value of what the Western Powers are doing in Korea, and in Asia and Africa generally, is queried in a letter to the Church Times by the Rev. Austin Lee. Is it he says, to bring them the benefits of apartheid, or the justice of Scotsboro? This question has elicited a reply from Central Africa House pointing out the good effects of British rule on native standards of living in East and Central Africa.

This is no doubt true in a material sense. It is rather what we have not done that should be deplored. Perhaps the best indictment of the white man's attitude to Africa—as exemplified, in its worst form, in the Union of South Africa—may be found in Alan Paton's "Cry the Beloved Country." He says it is our failure to substitute a new moral code to replace the old tribal law that has caused the present disintegration in native life.

### The Missing Factor

**O**NE organisation that sets out specifically to provide the "missing factor" in our statesmanship is Dr. Buchman's Moral Re-Armament assembly.

The centre at Caux, in Switzerland, has in the last five years received thousands of visitors from over 80 countries, and a weekly bulletin is now issued in English, French, German and Italian.

An industrial conference held this summer was notable for the fraternising of management and trade unionists. Some of the most enthusiastic MRA workers are ex-Communists who have found a more satisfying ideology based on the four principles of "absolute honesty, purity, love and unselfishness."

Dr. Paul Campbell of Canada describes his experience among miners in Western Germany and South Wales, where, he says, many of the sincerest workers for a better way of life have been Communists. But a Communist official said to him "Since MRA has come to the Rhondda I have lost a third of my membership, and you have taken away my best men."

Another example of conversion, if sufficiently zealously applied, being more effective than coercion.

### Red Cross and Korea

**T**HREE communiques issued by the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva describe its efforts to act as a neutral intermediary in the present conflict.

The first offer, on June 26, was made to the North and South Korean Governments in Pyongyang and Seoul, under Article 3 of the 1949 Geneva Conventions which refers to conflicts that are not international. It was pointed out that although neither Government had subscribed to these or previous Conventions, this did not prevent the *de facto* application of humanitarian principles for the protection of all war victims.

After American intervention, a similar offer was made to Washington, and it is emphasised that this is humanitarian and not political in nature.

The third communique reports the arrival in Seoul on July 3 of M. Frederick Bieri, of the International Committee of the Red Cross. He was received by President Syngman Rhee, who agreed to accept the aid proposal and adhere to the essential principles of the 1929 and 1949 Geneva Conventions. A delegate was also appointed to North Korea, and on July 13 Mr. Trygve Lie received confirmation that this Government would "scrupulously observe" the Geneva Conventions.

### Pacifism and Press

**T**HE recent Trafalgar Square demonstration in commemoration of Hiroshima received some welcome advance publicity in the Manchester Guardian.

The paper took pains to make clear, at some length, the difference between "pacifism" and "peace" in the current terminology, and to explain the significance of the PPU Pledge: "I renounce war and will never support or sanction another."

A similar demonstration is planned in Manchester on Sept. 3, anniversary of the outbreak of World War II. The speakers on this occasion will be Rhys J. Davies, MP, Sybil Morrison, and David Gibson, National Chairman of the ILP, it is rather surprising to learn, in this connection, that local branches of the Women's Co-operative Guild have received a "directive" to take no part in any peace demonstration whatsoever.

### ILCOP

**T**HE first annual conference of the International Liaison Committee of Peace Organisations opens at Royumont, near Paris, on Sept. 5, under the chairmanship of Mr. Gerald Bailey.

The main theme of the Conference is to consider "the growingly-significant situation in the underdeveloped areas of the world, notably in Asia and in Africa, in its bearing on the prospects of world peace and on the responsibilities of the peace movement throughout the world."

Several expert speakers will be present, including Dr. Alfred Métraux, of the Social Sciences section of Unesco; Dr. Franklin Frazier of Howard University, Washington; and Dr. Rita Hinden of the Fabian Colonial Bureau.

### Appeal to Archbishops

**A** CORRESPONDENT, Mr. R. E. Burton, sends the following comment on the attitude of the Church to the present situation:

"As a Christian, and hitherto for more than fifty years a staunch supporter of the Church of England, I was shocked to read in the Press of the tactless manner in which the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have thrown cold water on a new effort to promote peace between the nations."

"Assuming they have been correctly reported, their tirade against the so-called 'Communist-inspired' peace petition will undoubtedly result in a further thinning-out of congregations."

"All right-thinking church people will surely agree with the vicar of St. Peter's, Ipswich (PN, July 28) that the clergy would be better occupied crusading for peace rather than ridiculing those who honestly and sincerely desire to prevent another world war."

"The Archbishops now have a heaven-sent opportunity to give new life to the Church and new hope to the people by broadcasting our cry: WAR? WE SAY NO."

### Tolpuddle Martyrs

**I**N reply to a recent enquiry in PN, the Rev. Edis Fairbairn of Ontario, sends the following news from Canada about descendants of the Tolpuddle Martyrs.

He writes that his barber, Mr. Phil Brine, is a grandson of James Brine, one of the original martyrs; and a daughter of James Brine, Mrs. Eva Johnston, died only last month in her 98th year. Mr. Fairbairn also says that a book telling the story of the trial, with pictures of the victims, was published in Canada some years ago.

MARGARET TIMS

## PACIFIST PARADE

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Federalist Policy and Korean Govt.

**I** HOPE that the World Movement for World Federal Government as such will refrain from approving or disapproving the so-called United Nations' "policing action" in Korea. I notice that some Federalists have already hailed this war publicly, among them Henry Osborne and the British Parliamentary Committee, regardless of the fact that the fundamental principles of the movement are compromised.

Both World War II and the Korean War are the answer to the collective security advocate's dream, but they are not the answer to the federalist's objective. The present development tends in the direction of world unity based on the overwhelming power of a single state: of the United States on the one hand, and the Soviet Union on the other. "Enforcement" in Korea is war, and not police action.

It is the mass and indiscriminate destruction of innocent and guilty alike, resulting in the endless impoverishment of the Korean people and of all peoples whose precious resources, that ought to be devoted to raising living standards everywhere, are irrevocably wasted. Korea, "liberated" in this fashion, will be no different from other centres of continuing infection, liberated in World War II and still festering in exhaustion, poverty, moral deterioration, apathy and economic dislocation.

The governments have been trying to end war through war since 1914, and each time are less able to make peace. And in 1944, when they outlined the structure of the United Nations Organisation at the Dumbarton Oaks Conference, they sentenced mankind to the further horror of war to end war.

Korea marks the beginnings of the Third World War, which we Federalists predicted, and not the United Nations "working." Let us federalists have the decency not to applaud this catastrophe.

EDITH WYNNE

International Campaign for  
World Government,  
53 Riverside Drive,  
New York 24, NY.

### Crisis and World Govt.

**I** READ your report of Henry Osborne's House of Commons speech on July 28 with considerable interest. His analysis of the situation is excellent, but his conclusion is fatal. He tries to solve what is essentially a spiritual problem in terms of power. He asks for and apparently expects a revolutionary distribution of power in a world where power counts for more than it has ever done. Today the USA is buying power with dollars all round, even, at last, with austerity, in the hope of maintaining her way of life, or the highest material standards of living in the whole world. Those living standards are incompatible with anything approaching similar standards in the rest of the world, simply because the earth's resources are limited, while the core of American power is a smaller and harder group of financial magnates than exists in any other part of the world.

This means that the solution of the modern problem is spiritual. It lies in the control and limitation of material standards of living by such spiritual values as belong to creative or qualitative, as against quantitative living.

The future thus rests with the pioneers of a new creative or spiritual era. By no other means can the vicious circle of power within our modern materialism be broken. In my view, Britain and India are the two countries best able to provide this alternative way of salvation. My reasons for this view I will give on another occasion.

WILFRED WELLOCK

12 Victoria Avenue,  
Quinton, Birmingham, 32.

### The Pacifist and UNO

**A**T this time of crisis the pacifist who has supported UNO is faced with a dilemma. Below is a copy of a letter I have sent to my branch secretary giving my reasons for joining the United Nations Association and why I can no longer remain a member.

The purpose of this letter is to tender my resignation from the Southampton branch of the UNA, both as a member and collector. As you know, I am a pacifist, and because of the decision of the United Nations to use force in the present Korean dispute, I have no alternative but to disassociate myself from the association, which is committed to the support of UNO.

You will remember that when I joined 18 months ago I thought there was no reason why pacifists should not support UNO. Your reply was, "There seems to be every reason why they should!" Contrary to the opinion of some pacifists who have remained outside, I have always felt that every effort to secure world-wide unity should be supported, provided that by so doing there was no clash of principles involved. With this in mind, I have endeavoured to help the work of the association and would have continued to do so if the efforts for peace-building had continued along the lines of mediation and negotiation.

No one can be quite certain as to the outcome of the present world-crisis, but it has to be admitted that UNO has failed to settle this dispute by peaceful means and has thereby defeated the first principle of

the Charter (Article One, Section One). The pacifist has no other choice, as I see it, but to part company with those who believe in the method of force. It can hardly be disputed that the present trend, involving as it does, the race of armaments, increases the danger of a third world-war. Certainly, the chances of uniting what is now becoming a world split into two opposing camps are lessened.

It is perhaps significant that the Paris meeting in May of the working heads of all the UN agencies stated, "The United Nations and its agencies are founded on the principles that lasting world-peace can only be achieved by world-organisation..." Despite a feeling of apprehension, one must hope that such a world organisation will somehow emerge. Not, perhaps, until the nations understand the real meaning of Reconciliation.

RAYMOND BONIFACE

Contact member, PPU, Southampton  
50 Osborne Road,  
Southampton.

### He Preacheth strange doctrines

**S**OMEBODY sent me anonymously the Aug. 4 issue of Peace News. As, therefore, I am unable to thank them, perhaps you will do it for me.

Your journal is an interesting one, and there is nothing more vital, nor more truly Christian than the fight for peace today. I think you err, however, by your attempts to stand neither to one side or the other, directing almost as much condemnation against Communism and the USSR as against Capitalism and the Western Powers. Nevertheless "Communism" is a wide term; it embraces almost all who oppose exploitation and oppression, all who propagate demands for peace.

I am convinced that were Christ walking this earth today, He would have been called a Communist.

The charge that culminated in his crucifixion: "He preacheth strange doctrines and stirreth the people" in modern speech would have been "He preaches an alien ideology and is an agitator."

Let us therefore be sure we investigate without prejudice. The Soviet Union fights for peace because it really desires it.

Your Commentator, Roy Sherwood, says regarding the (Stockholm) Peace Petition, "here was a chance to catch the Kremlin on the wrong foot." I fail to see how watching for opportunities to catch each other "on the wrong foot" can lead ultimately to anything but quarrelling and finally war. He expands this theme by saying that the Western Powers should have taken up the Peace Petition with enthusiasm and so outdo the Soviet Union.

The Peace Petition is a specific demand. It calls for the banning of the atom bomb and the branding of the first to use it an aggressor.

Since this is more or less the Soviet proposal made through the United Nations, which the Western Powers have rejected, I fail to see how the acceptance of it in a public demand would "catch the Kremlin on the wrong foot." This form of reasoning cannot promote the cause of peace since it disunites the peace forces.

I hope you will not think me hostile to your efforts. I do most passionately desire peace and success to your efforts.

C. E. SUTTON

Old Post Cottage,  
Priors Marston, Nr. Rugby.

### Pacifists and Communists

**I** AM amongst those who deplore the recent Manifesto issued by the National Council of the Peace Pledge Union on its relationship with the British Peace Committee.

While I do not doubt their good intentions to keep the name of the Peace Pledge Union free from being made synonymous with that of Communism, I do feel that this statement does ignore the fundamentals of pacifism.

It is imperative that we shall not be turned from our purpose by the misrepresentations of others—however they may be. It may even be better to be misrepresented than completely ignored, as we have been so long by the Press and public.

In particular, I think we should not ask our Officers and staff to refrain from taking part in Peace demonstrations merely because they may be thought (by whom?) to be committing the movement.

While the Communists do not seek peace as we do, they are at least against war with Russia, and as that is the most likely war at the moment, we can and should work with them to arouse public opinion. When that danger is past, it may be necessary to work alongside with others, e.g., Conservatives in opposing war with Spain.

It is suicidal to talk of forming Peace Councils and not taking part in those under Communist influence. Our experience is that Hull with our newly formed Council is that it is exactly that type of attitude which makes any such Council become subject to Communists influence.

PPU members must strive with all their might to prevent the words "Peace" and "Communist" from becoming regarded as the same thing by the public. We can do this by making our message known at every conceivable opportunity, and refusing none.

LEONARD A. BIRD

2 Watt Street,  
Hull.

(Continued on page seven.)



## When the Bugles Blow

HOPE I may be able to voice my opinion on the PPU and the British Peace Congress.

I represented the Sheffield Fellowship of Reconciliation on the local Peace Council. I thought that we should influence the Council in the direction of pacifism.

I put the pacifist point of view on various occasions when war resistance came under discussion at the London Conference.

We were also asked to make suggestions when this Petition was being framed, but the Petition was minus anything of a pacifist nature which I suggested. I thought it was weak and ineffectual, only asking the Government to do what it was (in its own mind) trying to do, and that the outlawing of a nation is impracticable, as it may be impossible to bring it to justice.

Therefore when the PPU statement was received, my wife, who is local secretary of the PPU, and I were ready to accept its terms.

Any peace short of pacifism is not peace

BONIFACE  
J, Southampton

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D A. BIRD

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## LETTERS

(Continued from page six)

in any durable sense, and those who sign this petition, and endorse it, without the true pacifist intention will drop their peace ideals when the bugles blow, and leave us to hold the baby.

ERNEST PEASE

28 East Bank Place,  
Sheffield 2.

## Laughing Stock

THE present existence of two separate national peace organisations, one refusing to have anything to do with the other, makes a laughing stock of the peace movement in view of the present unity of the war-mongers. The blame for this deplorable situation rests on the organisation which refuses to co-operate.

KATHLEEN M. JONES

30 Rosemary Avenue,  
Hounslow, Middlesex.

## Donald Soper and Communism

I AGREE with Dr. Donald Soper's recent speech at the Methodist conference. I do not, however, agree with his implication that if we have peace we must have Communism. If we choose war, then we shall have war, certain, devastating; but if we choose peace it is very doubtful if it would mean Communism, except by the people's will.

USSR has no history of aggression and has seemed to want nothing to do with countries which cannot reach Communism by the will of the people. What good would she get from us, if she had to subdue us and hold us in subjection?

ELSIE RUSCOE

Farleigh,  
The Causeway, Claygate.

## Famine Relief

THE relief work which British Officers and their wives are doing among the many millions of destitute refugees in Western Germany is meeting with much appreciation. Newspapers there give long accounts of the distribution of clothing sent from Britain and express surprise that an ex-enemy country should do as much. One Major whose helpers have distributed several thousand garments writes that all the recipients, without exception, have been grateful for this alleviation of their lot.

It must not be forgotten that the children as well as the sick and aged are suffering greatly.

Arab refugees in the Near East are also being helped through the work of our Committee.

It should be widely known that Dr. Gilbert Murray, OM, will be discussing the refugee problem in a broadcast on all Home Services of the BBC, at 8.25 p.m., on Sunday, August 27.

(Rev.) H. R. MOXLEY,

Chairman.  
Oxford Committee for Famine Relief,  
17 Broad Street,  
Oxford.

## Sanity in Print

TWO women went to Solomon to claim the same child. He made his suggestion (that the child be cut in half). But the real Mother was logically minded enough to realise she would lose her all, so offered to give up her claim. To those who believe in Capitalism, and to those who are fully devoted to Communism, for Heaven's sake let the other fellow have his way, or there will be no child left to quarrel over.

PETER A. MARSH

Lufkins,  
Dedham,  
Colchester.

## Ingratitude

IN a recent broadcast, a lady who had lived in Korea in peace time, said that the natives, on seeing her approach, would sing, "Go away, Western foreigners, go away home." Once upon a time the Chinese were even naughtier, and called us foreign devils.

In Western Germany, some of the newspapers which have been suppressed, made the outrageous suggestion that the Americans should go home.

All this is monstrous. The Anglo-Saxon race, in sheer bigness of heart, has gone around civilising and liberating people all over the place. And all because the liberated ones sometimes lose a limb, or even an eye, or some other trifle, they exhibit this childish annoyance.

TOM SULLIVAN

3 Knockbreda Park,  
Belfast.

## Break with War

THE last world war, and everything connected with it is nothing else than the collapse of a social order which, beneath a deceptive appearance or mask of conventional formulas, concealed a fatal weakness and an unbridled lust for profit and power.

Forces which in time of peace had been repressed, unleashed themselves with the outbreak of war in an unhappy succession of acts at variance with the spirit of humanity and Christianity. International conventions entered upon to make war less inhuman by confining it to combatants, by regulating the treatment of occupied territories and of prisoners of war have in many places remained a dead letter.

Are the nations to stand aside while this disastrous process goes on?

Surely all men and women of courage and honour, as they gaze upon the ruins of social order which has given such tragic proof of its failure to secure the common good, ought to unite in a solemn vow never to rest until valiant souls of every people of the earth rise in their legions.

We owe this vow to the numberless dead who lie buried on the fields of battle. To the countless ranks of sorrowing mothers, widows and orphans; to the innumerable exiles whom the hurricane of war has torn away from their native soil; to the many thousands of non-combatants women, children and the infirm whom aerial warfare, waged indiscriminately or without sufficient precaution, has deprived of life, property, and health.

The outcome of the last war was a flood of tears and bitterness, of pain and torment. The peoples of the World must stand together to avoid a third and final catastrophe. The world must be delivered from the continuance of violence and horror.

RICHARD HOFFMAN

Berlin.

## Homo Sapiens

HAS man really progressed through the ages? What is the difference between slaying one's fellow creatures with a stone, and blowing them to pieces with a bomb? The method may be different but the principle is the same.

With the advent of atomic power it seems in the scheme of things man is to be allowed to reach a certain stage of evolution and ultimately destroy himself.

JOHN SALTER

50 Riversdale Road,  
Highbury, N.5.

## Frightfulness

THE bombing of women and children, the burning of homes, was an enemy device of the last war called "total war." Do we have to perpetrate it? Cannot we get back to the brave days? We call ourselves "Western Christian Civilisation."

To our shame America—with our agree-

## Up and doing!

## SUGARING THE PILL

FROM time to time readers expostulate that they could not possibly send Peace News to "so-and-so." This or the other feature might offend him, the name would put him off, it would be taken for Communist propaganda, he wouldn't read it—and other explanations which should not be lightly dismissed.

Nevertheless "he" is often a thoughtful and/or influential person who might become a valuable supporter of some aspect of our work. How do we gain his sympathy?

If you know him personally it won't be very difficult—a personal letter—or a friendly chat drawing attention to some article you know to be of interest will break the ice. Complimentary copies for a few weeks may gain a new reader, or at least a better understanding of our point of view.

In other cases snip out of your copy an appropriate feature and mention that it comes from a "well-known weekly newspaper." If the material is sufficiently interesting (and there is much important information in PEACE NEWS that no other paper prints) he will want to know where you got it from!

An extra copy each week could well be reserved for use in this way.

H.F.M.

Circulation last week 10,300. Sold out!

ment—dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki resulting in the death, torture, and disablement of 150 thousand non-fighters. In these cities, today, and around them, children are born blind to the survivors. Is this God's work?

Centuries of time cannot erase the terrible smear from the Western escutcheon. Today probably fifty thousand Korean women and children have been slaughtered and rendered homeless by Western bombs and guns for a mammonist bauble. Can we praise God in church for this achievement?

All America's nuclear expenditure has for years been allotted to bomb development only. And now the trebly murderous "Hydrogen" is being produced. This by an America which professes to follow the Nazarene. Is this then his work? America has never suffered the hell of bombing in her own homeland—hence her easy non-chalance with threats to atomise others.

A. D. HUNTER

28 The Grove,  
London, W.5.

## As seen from India

From the Editor of Harijan, the Indian weekly founded by and continuing the work of M. K. Gandhi.

I SEE that a revolution, on however small a scale at present, is going on almost all over Europe amongst the youth against wars.

It seems to me that the revolution can grow only if, along with the spirit of resisting war, channels are opened up which will enable men and women to find productive employments, which do not involve exploitation and allow decent but very simple and modest standards of living. We must use our talents to find these. At least that is the problem which India has to face.

K. G. MASHRUWALA

Bajagwadi,

Wardha, India.

(Letters on "General Strike Against War," page four.)

## Notes for your Diary

Thursday, August 31

LONDON, W.C.2: 12.30 p.m. Lincoln's Inn Fields; Open-air Meeting; Sybil Morrison; PPU.

Friday, September 1

LONDON, W.C.2: 1.30-1.45. St. Martin-in-the-Fields; Intercession Service for Peace; The Rev. Paul Giddons; A.P.F. For, and PPU.

BOW: 6.45 p.m. Kingsley Hall; Film Show "Children on Trial"; dealing with juvenile crime and its treatment.

Saturday, September 2

TAUNTON 3 p.m. Friends Meeting House, Bath Place; Speaker: R.V. Paul Giddons; Area Conference for West Somerset and East Devon; For.

Sunday, September 3

CLAPHAM COMMON, W.5: 3 p.m. Open-air meeting on "The Cinders"; Speaker: Jack Sutherland; support needed; Battersea PPU.

MANCHESTER: 2.0 p.m. United Peace Procession, Ardwick Green to Platt Fields; 3.30 p.m. Open-air meeting; Chairman: David Gibson; Speakers: Rhys Davies, MP, and Sybil Morrison; Volunteers please write to Fred Barton, Friends Meeting House, Manchester 2; SoF, For, PPU, Women's International League.

HYDE PARK: 7 p.m. Open-air meeting; PPU.

GLASGOW: 7 p.m. Brunswick Street, Open-air meeting; PPU.

Monday, September 4

TOWER HILL: 1 p.m. Speakers: Jack Sutherland and Gwyneth Anderson; PPU.

Wednesday September 6

LUTON: 8 p.m. Friends Meeting House, Castle St.; John Barclay, organising secretary of the International Help for Children, will speak on his recent visit to Greece, and the work of the IHC; PPU.

Thursday, September 7

DUDLEY: 7.30 p.m. Liberal Club, New St.; Dudley: Discussion between Dudley Liberal Association and the PPU: "That this meeting considers total disarmament is essential to world peace"; PPU.

LONDON, W.C.2: 12.30 p.m. Lincoln's Inn Fields; Open-air Meeting; Sybil Morrison; PPU.

Sunday, September 10

FINSBURY PARK: 11 a.m. Open-air meeting; North London Region, PPU.

HYDE PARK: 7 p.m. Open-air meeting; PPU.

GLASGOW: 7 p.m. Brunswick Street, Open-air meeting; PPU.

Thursday, September 14

HAMPSTEAD: 8 p.m. Friends Meeting House Heath St.; Gwyneth Anderson on "Non-violent Resistance and Peace Union"; Secretary: J. Wynne-Tyson, 11a Pond St., N.W.3; HAM 0174; PPU.

Saturday, September 23

LONDON, N.7: 2.30 p.m. North London Peace Centre (President: Bernard J. Boothroyd); Inaugural Garden Party at the Friends Meeting House, 404 Camden Rd., N.7; Music, Side-shows, Competitions; Admission 1s., Children with parents free.

Saturday, September 30

OTTENBURN Weekend Residential Conference at Ottenburn Hall, Northumberland; Subject: "Christ and Peace"; Speakers: Rev. R. G. Bell, Barbara Hare, John Ferguson, MA; Chairman: Rev. Clifford Macquarie; Application for brochures and terms to: John Mood, 60 Woodbine Rd., Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne 3.

LONDON, W.C.1: 2.30 p.m. Dick Sheppard House 6 Endsleigh St.; Bernard Boothroyd on "The Outlook for Religious Pacifism"; Religious Commission of the PPU.

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## MEETINGS

WEIGH HOUSE Church, Duke Street, W.1. (Bond St. Tube). Sunday evenings at 7. The Gospel of Peace! Social hour follows.

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## PERSONAL

ALL MEMBERS of the Christian Church interested in World Federation as a way to permanent peace should write to World Union, 105 Parkway, N.W.1.

FINANCIAL AID: (£200) required to continue 56-year-old Nature Cure Clinic (West Country). Particulars first from: BM/AGSPA, W.C.1.

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## LITERATURE, &amp;c.

QUAKERISM Information and Literature respecting the Faith and Practice of the Religious Society of Friends, free on application to the Friends' Home Service Committee, Friends' House, Euston Rd., London.

## FOR SALE &amp; WANTED

ECONOMY LABELS for re-using envelopes. Large, good quality, cheap; publishing Peace News. Post free, for 1s., 50; 1s. 9d., 100; 15s., 1,000. Also plain economy labels 1s., 100; 5s. 6d., 1,000 post free. Peace News, Ltd., 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4.

## SITUATIONS VACANT

ANY WILLING boy (15-16) on Mersey-side who wishes to learn the trade of scientific glass blowing write Norman H. Collins, 64 Regent Road, Liverpool 5. Wage to commence 25s.

SOLICITOR'S CLERK required; some experience desirable but conscientious principles (daily) more important. Leonard A. Bird, 2 Watt Street, Hull.

## SITUATIONS AND WORK WANTED

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## MISCELLANEOUS

WAR RESISTERS' International welcomes gifts of foreign stamps and undamaged air mail covers. Please send to: WRI, Lansbury House, 88 Park Avenue, Bush Hill Park, Enfield, Middlesex.



## PACIFISM'S CHALLENGE TO CHRISTIANS

Recent statements made by leading Churchmen indicate that while not accepting wholly the pacifist position, they are nevertheless finding, in the light of modern methods of warfare, that any other position is increasingly difficult to hold.

IN the weekly Commentary of the British Weekly, Aug. 17, under the heading "The Challenge of Pacifism," the writer sums up the position as he sees it.

First of all, he points out, the pacifist vision has always had a powerful minority Christian appeal, which has been steadily growing since 1914. The British Puritan and Free Church tradition has never endorsed a complete distinction between personal and social morality; it has always insisted that righteousness for men and women is also righteousness for nations and states.

That being so, there are, he feels, two tenable positions. On the one side people look at modern war and say: "Whatever is the alternative, that cannot be right." On the other they look at some spreading moral plague, some hideous cruelty or ruthless oppression, and say, "How can I allow an evil like that to go unresisted, I must fight."

### THE PERPETUAL WARNING

In the face of undoubted evil, which nothing short of war will check, refusal to take part can rest on one of two reasons. The Christian may feel the imperative necessity of fulfilling the commands of Christ. Or he may be convinced that "pure and harmless Christian living, the Way of Love at all costs, is sure of ultimate victory: and that no other way can win a lasting victory, or do so without causing greater evils than it averts."

True Christian Pacifism, he points out, has never held out the promise of sure immediate victory. Love does win victories today, surprising us at times by success against heavy odds. But the Cross stands as a perpetual warning that the sin of Man may crucify Love incarnate.

Lastly he concludes with a plea, that whatever view the Christian takes he should be tolerant: "Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind. Let us take the question to the foot of the Cross."

PEACE! What is the Christian View?  
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## THE WORLD'S PRESS ON KOREA

### Why they joined 'K Force'

THE following reasons for joining New Zealand's "K Force" were quoted in the Conservative Wellington newspaper, Dominion, recently after an interview with volunteers wishing to go to Korea:

Boredom with "civvy street";  
Desire for adventure;  
Spirit of patriotism;  
I want to be in on this;  
We might as well be in early;  
Stories of "good old days in services" from older relatives;  
Just couldn't get along with my wife;  
Battling with income tax returns;  
I still don't know what its all about, but it must be all right, otherwise they would not be asking us.

There was a complete absence of any concern for the Koreans or grasp of the international situation, reports Peace News' New Zealand Correspondent. On July 27 when NZ recruiting offices opened, 2,000 joined up throughout the country, but the rate of volunteers slowed quickly, the total being only 4,403 by mid-day on July 31.

### "Korea is one and indivisible"

THE Secretariat of the Communist sponsored World Peace Congress stated in their Journal "In Defence of Peace" (Aug. 1950):

"That, like all other nations, Korea is one and indivisible and that the Korean people, like other peoples, has the right to determine its own destiny;

"That the American government has taken the serious responsibility of military intervention in Korea with land, sea, and air forces.

"That the American Air Force is engaged in mass bombardment of the Korean civilian population.

"That in order to justify this intervention, the U.S. Government and other Governments have violated the principle of the United Nations Charter according to which the People's Government of Korea should have been heard before any decision was taken.

"That in addition the United States Government has decided to dispatch its fleet to Formosa, to reinforce its troops in the Philippines and to send a military mission to Indo China, that is to intervene also in the affairs of three other peoples of Asia.

"The Committee stresses the increasing threat of an extension of the conflict; condemns criminal proposals to use the atom bomb; expresses its ardent sympathy and solidarity with the Korean people which is winning its national unification in a struggle against foreign intervention; demands the end of American military intervention so that the Korean people may become masters of their own destiny and achieve unification freedom and independence and calls on all Partisans of Peace to make still greater efforts in the campaign for the Stockholm appeal which is clearly the surest way to ease international tension and to establish peace."

### Yugoslavs blame both powers

—PEACE COMMITTEE

THE Government-sponsored Yugoslav National Committee for the Defence of Peace declared in a statement issued after a two-day Congress:

"The cause of peace is inseparable from the struggle against the policy of spheres of interest and against the hegemony of any power over other countries.

"Every people has the right to self determination, the right to create its own sovereign national state. The honouring of this right, particularly with regard to the colonial and semi-colonial countries can be a powerful factor in maintaining peace.

"Conversely, the policy of non-recognition of the Chinese popular revolution and the preventing of the peoples of Asia and Africa from selling up their own states, in conformity with their own wishes, can only do harm to this cause.

"This is being borne out by the case of Korea, where the rivalry and interference of great powers has led to an outbreak of war threatening the national independence of the Korean people and increasing the threat to peace throughout the world."

Yugoslav Bulletin

### BUT NO LABOURERS

The fighter squadron which the South African Government is to send to Korea will consist of 31 officers—including 25 pilots—and 172 other ranks. Labourers will be recruited in Korea.

—Observer, Aug. 6, 1950

### A losing score

Under the heading "Korea Air Scores," the Daily Telegraph of Aug. 5 reported "During July British and U.S. carrier-based planes destroyed 36 aircraft over Korea, 39 locomotives, 99 lorries, a complete village and an entire 24-truck ammunition and oil train."

### WELL KNOWN DIFFICULTY

"What makes it so difficult here is that you can't tell the damn North Koreans from the South Koreans. That caused a lot of slaughter..."

—U.S. Infantry Captain in CBS broadcast, quoted in Time

### While others register...

A conference for young men between 16 and 18 years of age on "Conscription and Conscience," has been organised by the Friends Peace Committee (Quakers) and will take place on National Service Registration Day, Sept. 2, at Friends House, Euston Road, London, N.W.1.

The conference will open at 11 a.m. with an address by Denis Hayes, author of "Conscription Conflict" and "The Challenge of Conscription."

Applications to attend should be sent to the FPC, at Friends House.

### Public speaking for beginners

CAMBERWELL Peace Pledge Union Group are to run a course of about six weekly lessons on public speaking. All pacifists who would like to attend are invited to contact Jack Sutherland, who is running the course, c/o 152 Camberwell Road, S.E.5, stating which evenings they could attend.

### PPU HEADQUARTERS

There is likely to be a vacancy shortly on the staff at Dick Sheppard House for a record clerk. Short-hand typing, filing and record keeping essential. Apply by letter, giving full particulars of experience, etc., to General Secretary, Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsleigh Street, W.C.1.

BIGGER THAN THE BRITISH ISLES?  
"The U.S. plans to build the world's biggest aircraft carrier."

—Daily Express, August 10, 1950.

### MANCHESTER PEACE DEMONSTRATION

September 3rd

POSTER PARADE, from Ardwick Green at 2 p.m.

Open Air Meeting

PLATT FIELDS, 3 p.m.

Speakers:

Rhys J. Davies, MP  
David Gibson  
Sybil Morrison

Supported by Peace Pledge Union, Society of Friends, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Women's International League and other interested organisations. Those wishing to take part in the procession are asked to send names and addresses to Fred Barton, c/o Friends Meeting House, Mount Street, Manchester 2.

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Sybil Morrison's

## CAMPAIGN COLUMN

"The soldier is required to perform the highest act of religious teaching: sacrifice. In battle, in the face of death, he discloses those divine attributes which his Maker gave him, when he created him in his own image."

—General MacArthur, Picture Post, Aug. 19, 1950.

Who will remember, passing through this Gate,  
The unheroic Dead who fed the guns?  
Who shall absolve the foulness of their fate—  
Those doomed, conscripted, unvictorious ones?

Siegfried Sassoon. "On Passing the New Menin Gate."

THE instinct of self-preservation is perhaps the strongest instinct in life, whether human or animal. In consequence there is no greater hero, in fiction, or in fact, than the man or woman, who sacrifices life itself in order to preserve the life of another. History is full of incidents where quite ordinary people have been inspired to the highest courage in facing death for a cause, or in risking and possibly losing their lives in order to save a child, or a friend, a wife or a lover.

To link this amazing record of human sacrifice and love with anything done by a soldier in battle is a dreadful travesty of the whole essence of sacrifice. The one thing, in fact, that a soldier is regimented, drilled and exhorted not to do, is to lay down his life; on the contrary, what he has to do for his country is to kill, not to die.

The justification for most of the horrors of modern war is the necessity for sacrificing some lives in order to save others. It is hardly to be believed that the commando is told when he sets out that he "is required to perform the highest act of religious teaching," or that the "operational" bombing pilot is urged to sacrifice his life.

It is quite certain that he is not. The pilot is told to loose his bombs on the best possible targets—crowded factories, railway stations and docks, and to bring himself and his crew safely back to the home base. The commando is taught to kill silently and scientifically in order to pave the way for infiltration and invasion; he is, in fact, instructed in the art of saving his own life at any cost in the lives of others.

Any desire to sacrifice civilian life—such as it is—let alone life itself, is not apparent in the young today, either in this country or in any other country; the armies, in these days of total war, are largely conscripted ones; in fact what sacrifice there is, is unwilling sacrifice, which is no sacrifice at all.

It may be necessary, in order to satisfy these "doomed" young men, and their friends and relations, to pretend that battle in which they may ultimately be engaged, is something in which the "divine attributes" in human nature will be revealed, and that therefore the calling of service in this cause is of the highest order. But anyone who knows anything about war, knows that a man with his stomach ripped open with a shell splinter, with half his head blown off, with his eyes blinded and his face burned with blast, shows no divine attributes at all, but cries for human help like any lost child.

And it is the lost child in these helpless human beings with which humanity needs to be concerned. The words of a Commander-in-Chief of armies, naturally carries great weight in war, and for such a man, who must have seen and known the full brutality of war, to imply in a public statement, that soldiers lay down their lives out of love for their fellow men, is a blasphemous deception that should be exposed for the hideous lie that it is.

Those deeply tragic words: "greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for a friend," have in them the true meaning of sacrifice no sacrifice of any kind can be acceptable to God or to man unless it is rooted in charity and interpreted in love. It is the denial of this truth which makes the sacrifices of war barren and vain; in war there is no love, but only hatred; the world is waiting for that "greater love" in which lies the only real hope of peace.

Emrys Hughes, M.P.

writes every week in

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## ANNIVERSARY

of the outbreak of

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Joan Thompson, BA, JP.  
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## B.B.C.—ALL HOME SERVICES

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